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2-11-03**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, in 1915, Dr. Carter G. Woodson of Virginia founded the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, the organization which originated the annual observance of Negro History Week. This observance has continued and is now celebrated throughout the month of February as National Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Black History Month 2003 is "The Souls of Black Folk: Centennial Reflections;" and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Black History Resource Center has planned a series of special events that highlight and celebrate all aspects of African American history and culture during the month of February; and

WHEREAS, in February an exhibit, *A Century of Just Women: Northern Virginia's African American Women 1900 -1999* opens in the Vola Lawson Lobby of City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Museum will continue to document, preserve and disseminate the African American story through ongoing programs in the Museum and Watson Reading Room. These programs include: free tutoring, language classes, book clubs and literary events;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council and the citizens of Alexandria, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2003, as:

"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"

in the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 11th day of February 2003.

KERRY J. DONLEY **MAYOR**
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC

City Clerk